



KANAZAWA ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE PROGRAM 2026

Purpose

Kanazawa Utatsuyama Kogei Kobo, a craft training and research institution operated by the City of Kanazawa, invites an artist or craftsperson from a UNESCO Creative Cities Network (UCCN) member city.

The purpose of this program is to strengthen international networks among UNESCO Creative Cities through cultural exchange. The program aims to encourage collaboration between participating cities, foster the development of creative professionals, and promote traditional and contemporary crafts to a global audience.

Program Overview

- Number of Participants

One (1) artist or craftsperson

- Fields

Ceramics, Lacquerware, Textile Dyeing, Metal Crafts, or Glass

- Residency Period

Four (4) weeks, beginning in October 2026.

Specific dates will be arranged in consultation with the selected participant.

- Application Period

8 June 2026 – 23 July 2026

Deadline: 23 July 2026, 16:00 Japan Standard Time (JST)



- Selection Schedule

Application deadline	23 July 2026 (16:00 JST)
Review by the Director and technical specialists of Kanazawa Utatsuyama Kogei Kobo	
Notification of results and selection of resident artist	Late August 2026

Eligibility

- Applicants must:

- ✧ Reside in, work in, or attend school in a city that is a member of the UCCN.
- ✧ Work in one of the following fields: Ceramics, Lacquerware, Textile Dyeing, Metal Crafts, or Glass
- ✧ Be able to communicate in English or Japanese
- ✧ Receive support from their UNESCO Creative City for round-trip travel expenses to and from Kanazawa

- Application Materials

Please submit the following documents by email to:

creativecitykanazawa@gmail.com

Required Documents

- Letter of Recommendation

Signed by the representative or coordinator of the applicant's UNESCO Creative City.

- Curriculum Vitae (CV)

In English or Japanese.

- Portfolio

- ✧ PDF format only
- ✧ Maximum 15 pages
- ✧ Maximum 10 works/projects
- ✧ Maximum file size: 20 MB

- Statement of Motivation

- English: maximum 600 words
- Japanese: maximum 1,200 characters



- Project Proposal
 - English: maximum 1,000 words
 - Japanese: maximum 2,000 characters

The proposal should include:

- A detailed description of the work to be undertaken during the residency
- A production schedule
- Facilities, equipment, and materials required

- Additional Interests

Any cultural activities, research topics, or experiences the applicant wishes to pursue during their stay in Kanazawa.

- Passport Copy

【Important Note】

Applications exceeding the specified page, word, character, or file-size limits may be excluded from review.

- Health Insurance

Successful applicants must submit proof of valid health insurance covering the entire residency period before entering Japan.

- Residency Facilities for the artistic creation

Kanazawa Utatsuyama Kogei Kobo

<https://www.utatsu-kogei.gr.jp/english/>

- Public Program

The resident artist will be expected to give an artist talk or presentation during the residency. Details will be arranged later.

- Accommodation

Accommodation will be provided by the City of Kanazawa, generally in a business hotel. Guesthouse accommodation may be arranged upon request and availability.



- Financial Support

Provided by the City of Kanazawa

- Accommodation in Kanazawa during the program period
 - Daily allowance of JPY 5,000 per day
- (Subject to change without prior notice)

To be covered by the participant or their UNESCO Creative City

- Round-trip transportation to and from Kanazawa
- Travel insurance

- Artwork Shipment

Upon request, artworks produced during the residency may be shipped internationally by EMS after the exhibition period.

Any import duties, customs charges, taxes, or related fees incurred upon receipt of the artwork are the sole responsibility of the participant.

- Further Information

Kanazawa Utatsuyama Kogei Kobo

<https://www.utatsu-kogei.gr.jp/english/>

<https://youtu.be/6VcxHLQi468?si=VWeaaOxFvwzELn5>

Kanazawa Travel Guide

<https://visitkanazawa.jp/en/>

Traditional Crafts of Kanazawa

<http://www.crafts-hirosaka.jp/kougei/sasshi/doc/English.pdf>

- Contact

Yoko Kawa

Focal point of UCCN

City of Kanazawa

creativecitykanazawa@gmail.com